

# STARS AND STRIPES

Sunday, July 13, 2003

A news digest for U.S. forces serving overseas

## Inching closer to Saddam

BY MOLLY MOORE  
*The Washington Post*

SIWASH, Iraq — Just before dawn on Wednesday, Col. James Hickey launched his biggest raid yet in the hunt for Saddam Hussein and his top associates: Tanks and troops on the ground, AH-64 Apache helicopters in the sky and speed boats on the Tigris River converged on an isolated farm owned by a cousin of the former Iraqi leader.

When soldiers blasted into the farmhouse, it looked abandoned. A bird had built a nest in the living room couch. Yet there was fresh bread and candy in the kitchen, men's clothing reeking of recent sweat in the closet and a machine gun, rocket-propelled grenade launchers and explosives secreted in the garden — evidence, Hickey said, that the farm may have been a "safe house" for Saddam or others on the run.

In recent weeks, the search for Saddam and dozens of his senior associates and mid-level loyalists has intensified here in his home province of Salahuddin, northwest of Baghdad. Spurred by reports from local informants and intercepted telephone conversations, some U.S. officials now believe that the fugitive former president and his closest henchmen may be filtering back here for the protection afforded by a vast network of tribal and family connections.

Almost every raid, officers say, turns up new scraps of evidence — photos, documents, with satellite telephone numbers, fake identity cards. Informants — ranging from powerful sheiks to poor farmers — whisper tips, often risking lives and livelihoods. U.S. intelligence units glean tidbits from telephone intercepts, aerial surveillance and gumshoe detective work.

"You get a lot of Saddam sightings," said Col. Don Campbell, chief of staff for the 4th Infantry Division, which oversees the province. "People say, 'I can take you to Saddam' or 'I can tell you where he is.' If we believe it's credible, we follow it up."

Tips had accelerated even before last week, when the U.S. government offered \$25 million for information leading to Saddam's capture or confirmation of his death. The lure of the reward money, however, has multiplied the number of tips slipped to U.S. officials by Iraqis in the area, they said.

Though Saddam is the ace of spades in the deck of cards distributed by the Americans that depicts the 55 most-wanted Iraqis, military officers keenly aware of the still unsuccessful search for al-Qaida leader Osama bin Laden — said the former Iraqi president is only the most famous of numerous targets. The majority of raids, they said, are launched in pursuit of up to 300 other Saddam associates, first-tier bodyguards, mid-level money men and others suspected of financing or organizing attacks on Americans and the Iraqis assisting them.

Thus far, 33 of the 55 figures on the playing cards have been captured or surrendered. Military officials said they believe those at large, including Saddam, are moving frequently among relatives and friends, trying to evade detection.

Even when the intended targeted has eluded capture, military officials said few raids are considered complete failures.

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## New offensive launched in Iraq

BY BORZOU DARAGHI  
*The Associated Press*

BALAD, Iraq — American forces killed four suspected insurgents and arrested more than 50 people as they launched a fourth major offensive in central Iraq, aiming to blunt anti-U.S. attacks expected during upcoming holidays once marked by Saddam Hussein's regime.

Meanwhile, gunmen in an Iraqi police vehicle shot at American troops at a checkpoint in Baghdad on Sunday and the soldiers returned fire, witnesses said. It was not clear if there were any casualties, and the U.S. military had no immediate comment. The Americans have been training Iraqi police, and it was not immediately known if the gunmen were police or insurgents using the vehicle.

U.S. forces also detained nine "high-value targets" in raids near Mosul, in northern Iraq. None of the suspects were on the list of 55 most wanted Iraqis from Saddam's old regime.

The military also announced that one soldier was killed and two others injured early Sunday when a tractor trailer crashed accidentally into their vehicle, which was parked at a checkpoint outside a base in Diwaniyah, 100 miles south of Baghdad. The names of the soldiers are being withheld pending notification of next of kin.

The Army's 4th Infantry Division launched Operation Ivy Serpent on Saturday night with a series of raids on suspected pro-Saddam holdouts, instituting aggressive checkpoints and sweeps through illegal weapons markets in the Baqouba and Balad on the Tigris River north of the capital.

"We're going offensive to disrupt potential attacks against us by Baathists and former Fedayeen elements," said Col. David Hogg, a commander of the 4th Infantry's 2nd Brigade.

He said two homes that were used to produce anti-U.S. propaganda materials were seized and that American forces came under rocket-propelled grenade and AK-47 automatic rifle fire in a



JOHN MOORE/AP

**U.S. soldiers from the 4th Infantry Division, 1st Battalion, 68th Armor Task Force detain the men of Mashahdah, Iraq, on Sunday. It was part of Operation Ivy Serpent, a new attempt to root out pro-Saddam insurgents.**

sweep of seven locations in Dila Province, location of Baqouba.

Hogg said U.S. forces captured three wanted men — a former Fedayeen general, a former Iraqi air force general and the second in charge of the Baath party in Dila Province. He would not give their names.

Since President Bush declared major combat over on May 1, 31 U.S. soldiers have been killed by enemy forces and scores have been wounded in a series of hit-and-run mortar, rocket-propelled grenade and small-arms attacks. Most have taken place in Baghdad and traditionally pro-Saddam Sunni Arab strongholds of central Iraq, known as the "Sunni Triangle."

Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld warned Sunday that attacks on U.S. troops in Iraq may worsen this summer.

Several key anniversaries fall this week — those of the July 17, 1968, coup by the Baath Party, the July 16, 1979, ascendance of Saddam to the presidency and the July 14, 1958, overthrow of the monarchy. U.S. military officials have received intelligence reports — including letters addressed to community leaders urging attacks against Americans — indicating that pro-Saddam and Islamist insurgents plan spectacular anti-American actions to mark those days.

## Rumsfeld warns of more attacks on troops

JENNIFER C. KERR  
*The Associated Press*

WASHINGTON — Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld warned Sunday that attacks on U.S. troops in Iraq may worsen this summer but he insisted that occupation forces there are making progress.

"I'm afraid we're going to have to expect this to go on, and there's even speculation that during the month of July, which is an anniversary for a lot of Baathists events, we could see an increase in the number of attacks," Rumsfeld said on NBC's "Meet the Press."

Even though major fighting has ended, Rumsfeld cautioned, "We're still in a war." He also said American forces — now totaling about 150,000 — will likely remain in Iraq for the "foreseeable future."

"There's still a lot people from the

Baathist and Fedayeen Saddam regime types who are there, who are disadvantaged by the fact that their regime has been thrown out and would like to get back, but they're not going to succeed," he said.

As for whether the resistance is organized throughout the country, Rumsfeld said there's still a lot of debate in the intelligence community about that. However, "it's very clear that it's coordinated in regions and areas, cities in the north particularly," he said.

Since President Bush declared May 1 that major combat was over, 31 U.S. soldiers have been killed by hostile fire in Iraq and scores have been wounded in hit-and-run attacks.

Still, the defense secretary insisted that progress is being made on the ground with Iraqis signing up for the army and police forces, and schools and hospitals opening back up.

But, he said, the "more progress we make, I'm afraid, the more vicious the

attacks will become" on American and coalition forces.

In a separate appearance on ABC's "This Week," Rumsfeld disputed claims from some congressional Democrats that the administration has understated the cost of the war and occupation of Iraq.

"We have said we don't know what it will cost; we have said it's not knowable how long it will last," he said.

Rumsfeld said estimates he provided Congress last week that the occupation was costing \$3.9 billion to \$4 billion a month are based on current costs and cannot be projected into the future. He also rejected suggestions that the Iraqi occupation has evolved into a guerrilla conflict.

"We've been there less than 10 weeks, is that bogged down? How long were we in Germany? How long were we in Japan?" he said.

"The president has said we are going to use as many forces as are necessary for as long as it takes."

# Dying mom's daughter will return home

BY DICK FOSTER

*Scripps Howard*

DENVER — Andrea Fine's pleas to the Army have been heard. Her daughter Elycia is coming home from Iraq to be with her as Andrea Fine faces the final stage of breast cancer.

Elycia Fine will be reassigned to Buckley Air Force Base in Aurora, Colo., to be near her mother's house, the Army said.

"She called me this morning and said, 'Guess what. I'm coming home,'" Andrea Fine, 53, said on July 10.

Andrea said she hopes to meet her daughter at the airport early this week.

Andrea Fine has stage-four breast cancer that has spread into her ribs, spine, lungs and bones. Her doctors have given her six months to one year to live.

The Army's decision to send Elycia Fine home climaxes a tumultuous week in which national news media and members of Congress rallied behind Andrea Fine's request for her daughter's return.

"It could have been the media pressure; it could have been the congressional pressure. Maybe it was simply a change of heart by the Army," said Andrea Fine. "It doesn't matter. She's coming home."

Elycia Fine will be given 30 days' regular leave while her request for "compassionate reassignment" is processed, an Army spokesman said.

"We have already coordinated for her reassignment to be at Buckley AFB, Colorado," said Lt. Col. Mike Birmingham, public affairs officer with the 3rd Infantry Division in Iraq.

Elycia Fine, who has served in Army intelligence for two years as a linguist, was stationed at Fort Stewart, Ga. When she visited her mother last Christmas she decided to seek compassionate reassignment to Fort Carson in Colorado Springs to be near her mother.

Then came the war. Before her request could be processed, Elycia Fine's 103rd Military Intelligence Battalion was shipped to Kuwait with the 3rd Infantry Division.

She has been in Kuwait and Iraq since January.

Andrea Fine, sensing her own time growing short, said she "started getting a little crazy, thinking, 'Am I going to see her return?'"

She called Fort Stewart last month to request her daughter's return and was told to call the Red Cross.

The Red Cross requested emergency leave and told her to expect to hear from her daughter within days. Her hopes were dashed in a June 19 e-mail from Elycia Fine saying the Army was not granting any emergency leave from Iraq unless family members are "hospitalized and literally on your death bed."

Last week, Andrea Fine went public with her plea in the Denver news media, and her story spread rapidly.

## Saddam

Continued from Page 1

"Almost every time, we get some piece of evidence that leads us to the next raid," said Maj. Mike Silverman, 38, operations officer for the 1st Brigade Combat Team, which is responsible for Salahuddin province.

"You always have to follow the trail," said Hickey, his commander. "Saddam and his top people come from this neighborhood."

They tend to fall back on tribal support, so we think it's plausible he could be here."

In a dusty, air-conditioned command tent on the grounds of one of Saddam's palace guesthouses on the outskirts of Tikrit, the booty of recent U.S. military raids was spread across a table: pictures, hundreds of pictures. Many depicted Saddam smiling with green-uniformed officers, old men, big families.

"Photos are a big deal," said Silverman, an ebullient, round-faced Floridian. On nearly every raid, Silverman said soldiers find shadows of Saddam. Few houses lack at least one photo of present or past occupants standing next to their ousted leader.

A few days ago, he said, a raid netted the first known photograph of No. 11 in the most-wanted deck — Barzan Abd Ghafur Sulayman Majid al-Tikriti, a Special Republican Guard commander depicted on his card as a black silhouette.

Though sophisticated, high-tech surveillance equipment is a key component of the Saddam hunt, Silverman said nine out of every 10 tips that the 1st Brigade Combat Team receives come from human intelligence.

"We have lots of walk-ins," he said. Some local Iraqis walk openly into a U.S. military welcome center in downtown Tikrit, the city in Salahuddin province where Saddam's roots run deepest. Others slide up to military officials during private meetings with local government officials or ask to meet with Iraqi translators working with the military.

Human intelligence, however, carries the risk of human error, misjudgment and exaggeration, military officials said.

"We get so much information, we have to be judicial," said Hickey, a lean, quiet-spoken Chicago native.

## News tracker: What's new with old news

### Nation

**Arizona wildfires:** A second night of rain helped crews come closer to containing the wildfire that destroyed hundreds of homes atop Mount Lemmon near Tucson, Ariz., officials said Sunday.

"It really looks good today. The smoke is pretty well gone and containment is holding at 85 percent," said Marsha Cooper, a fire information officer with the team fighting the 84,750-acre fire in the Santa Catalina Mountains.

The blaze, which destroyed 340 buildings, started on June 17, and crews hope to have it fully contained by Tuesday evening. A \$5,000 reward has been offered for information about the fire, believed to have been caused by humans.

**Medical marijuana:** In a state where doctors are allowed to suggest marijuana for medical purposes, a medical panel is trying to suspend or revoke the license of a physician who has written 7,500 marijuana recommendations for his patients.

Dr. Tod H. Mikuriya, 69, is accused of writing those recommendations without conducting sufficient medical exams and of improperly maintaining medical records.

Mikuriya and his supporters view the accusation as a political attempt to hush the vocal psychiatrist, who has been at the forefront of medical marijuana advocacy for decades and has written extensively on the topic.

**Olympic bombing suspect:** Serial bombing suspect Eric Rudolph pleaded innocent Friday to a fatal abortion clinic bombing as he was arraigned on a new indictment that will allow prosecutors to seek the death penalty.

Rudolph entered the same plea last month on the old two-count indictment, which charges he killed an off-duty Birmingham police officer by setting off a bomb at an abortion clinic.

The new indictment contains the same charges, but adds language that a federal magistrate said will allow the government to seek the death penalty, including charges that Rudolph knowingly created a grave risk of death to one or more persons.

**Sniper shootings:** In a reversal of course, prosecutors now say they support moving the murder trial of sniper suspect John Allen Muhammad out of the Washington suburbs, a change defense attorneys have argued for all along.

Circuit Judge Leroy F. Millette Jr. has not ruled on the defense motion to move the case, but said he would soon. He could still keep the case in Manassas.

Prosecutor Paul Ebert said Friday he still believes an impartial jury can be seated in Manassas. But he said it would be inconsistent to leave the trial there, given that the judge in the case of fellow suspect Lee Boyd Malvo changed the venue in that case last week.

**Benton Harbor rally:** About 200 demonstrators marched in Benton Harbor, Mich., on Saturday to protest the racially charged case of a black motorcyclist whose death during a police chase sparked two nights of rioting in June.

Carrying signs and chanting "What do we want? Justice!" and "No justice, no peace, no racist police," marchers walked 1½ miles from the mostly black city of Benton Harbor to neighboring St. Joseph, a predominantly white community, for a rally at the county courthouse.

"It's just a demonstration that will get some people's attention and it may start some dialogue," said Joe Walker, 70, who said he marched to help focus attention on alleged "institutional racism."

**'Boys Don't Cry' trial:** A man condemned to die for the murder that inspired the movie "Boys Don't Cry" will not get a new trial or reduction of his sentence, the Nebraska Supreme Court ruled Friday.

John Lotter's attorney argued that his client's sentence should be reduced because of a 2002 U.S. Supreme Court ruling calling for juries — not judges — to decide when the death penalty is warranted.

Nebraska's high court said that ruling didn't apply retroactively to Lotter, who was also convicted of killing two other people. Lotter was sentenced in 1996 by a three-judge panel rather than a jury.

Lotter and Marvin Nissen were convicted of killing Brandon Teena, who was born a woman with the name Teena Brandon, but lived as a man in southeast Nebraska and dated a female friend of the two men.

**Heat death:** A mother whose three children were left in a hot car was charged Friday with felony child abuse and involuntary manslaughter.

ter in one child's death. The other two children are in critical condition.

Police said Natasha Edwards-Pratt called 911 about 1 p.m. Wednesday to say that her daughter was not breathing. Emergency workers found the three children unconscious and in respiratory distress, police said.

Police said they don't know how long the children were left in the car.

Kenneth Pratt, 2, died at a hospital Wednesday. Jaquon, 1, and Nataliya, 4 months old, were in critical condition Friday.

**Bounty hunter:** The bounty hunter who captured fugitive cosmetics heir Andrew Luster has returned home to Hawaii, despite a possible bail violation for missing a court appearance in Mexico.

Mexican immigration authorities issued an alert Tuesday when Duane "Dog" Chapman, his brother and his son failed to show up in court there, where they are accused of illegally detaining Luster in late June.

Chapman dismissed the claims on Friday after arriving at Honolulu International Airport from Los Angeles, saying there was no court date scheduled.

### World

**Bangladesh ferry deaths:** The death toll from a ferry disaster in southern Bangladesh rose to 164 on Sunday after rescuers recovered 86 more bodies.

More than 360 people were still missing and presumed dead from the ferry sinking, which happened Tuesday. The ferry hasn't been found yet.

A navy ship using metal detectors resumed its search for the vessel, believed to be 200 feet under turbulent waters.

The bodies were found a few miles downstream from southeastern Chandpur, where the ferry sank with about 750 people aboard.

**Meeting stalemate:** United Nations officials from Japan and North Korea met in New York last month to discuss the impasse over the communist nation's nuclear program and its past abductions of Japanese citizens, a news report said Saturday.

Eiji Yamamoto, minister at Japan's mission to the United Nations, met with his North Korean counterpart, Han Song Ryol, in mid-June in attempts to restart communication, the Mainichi newspaper reported.

The report said the meeting ended in a stalemate after Japan pushed for multilateral talks to resolve both the nuclear and abductee issues. North Korea insisted on one-on-one talks with the United States first.

**Arafat's future:** A senior aide to Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon said Saturday that Israel would consider deporting Yasser Arafat if the Palestinian leader continued to try to "scuttle the peace process."

Speaking after Sharon told a British newspaper that European leaders were undermining a fledgling peace effort by maintaining ties with the Palestinian leader, Raanan Gissin accused Arafat of sabotaging Mahmoud Abbas, the Palestinian prime minister directing peace moves with Israel.

**Lifting SARS alert:** U.S. officials have lifted a SARS-related travel alert for Beijing, leaving Taiwan the only area remaining on the list.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said Friday that the Beijing alert was lifted because more than 30 days had elapsed since the last case of severe acute respiratory syndrome there developed symptoms.

### War on terrorism

**Lynch homecoming:** Former POW Jessica Lynch is expected to be out of the hospital and back home in West Virginia by the end of the month, a family spokesman said Friday.

Family spokesman Randy Coleman said doctors at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C., said Lynch could be released in two weeks.

Doctors still need to do some tests as part of the discharge process before a release date is set, but Lynch is progressing, hospital spokeswoman Beverly Chidel said.

**Bomb attack in Afghanistan:** A bomb blew a hole in the wall of a warehouse being used by the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees in eastern Afghanistan, damaging equipment and shattering windows in nearby houses, officials said.

No one was injured in the explosion in Jalalabad.

From wire reports



# News from around the war

## White House: Claim was accurate

WASHINGTON — The Bush administration said Sunday the president's statement in the State of the Union address about Iraq seeking uranium was accurate and is supported by other British and U.S. information.

Nevertheless, said Condoleezza Rice, the national security adviser, the statement should not have been in the Jan. 20 speech, in which Bush laid out reasons for military action against Iraq.

"We have a higher standard for presidential speeches than raw intelligence," she said.

In the speech, Bush said: "The British government has learned that Saddam Hussein recently sought significant quantities of uranium from Africa."

U.S. intelligence agencies had raised questions previously about assertions of such activity. Rice said CIA Director George Tenet had removed from a Bush speech in Cincinnati three months earlier a more specific reference to Iraqi efforts to buy uranium for nuclear weapons. Underlying documents to support the British contention proved to have been forged.

After the controversy over the State of the Union comment followed Bush around Africa during his trip last week, Tenet assumed responsibility Friday for not insisting that the statement be removed. "These 16 words should never have been included in the text written for the president," Tenet said.

"This was a part of a very broad case that the president laid out in the State of the Union and other places," Rice said on "Fox News Sunday."

"But the statement that he made was indeed accurate. The British government did say that. ... The British stand by their statement," Rice said.

## Aide: Iran should withdraw from treaty

TEHRAN, Iran — Iran should withdraw from an international nuclear arms control treaty because of U.S. pressure to give weapons inspectors greater access to Iranian nuclear sites, an aide to the supreme leader said Saturday in a newspaper editorial.

Hossain Shariatmadari, editor of the hard-line Kayhan daily newspaper — a mouthpiece for Iran's ruling Islamic establishment, also accused the United Nations' atomic agency of being "under the influence and supervision of the United States."

The head of the U.N.'s International Atomic Energy Agency, Mohamed ElBaradei, visited Iran earlier in the week.

ElBaradei urged Iran to make its atomic program transparent and facilitate unfettered inspections of its nuclear sites, which the U.S. claims are for producing atomic weapons but Tehran says are used for peaceful purposes, namely to generate electricity.

President Bush has warned Tehran to keep its promise not to develop nuclear weapons or "we will deal with that."

## More doubt in Iraq, al-Qaida link

WASHINGTON — As President Bush works to quiet a controversy over his discredited claim of Iraqi uranium shopping in Africa, another of his prewar assertions is coming under fire: the alleged link between Saddam Hussein's regime and al-Qaida.

Before the war, Bush and members of his cabinet said Saddam was harboring top al-Qaida operatives and suggested Iraq could slip the terrorist network chemical, biological or even nuclear weapons.

Critics attacked those assertions from the beginning for being counter to the ideologies of Saddam and al-Qaida and short on corroborating evidence. Now, two former Bush administration intelligence officials say the evidence linking Saddam to the group responsible for the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks was never more than sketchy at best.

"There was no significant pattern of cooperation between Iraq and the al-Qaida terrorist operation," former State Department intelligence official Greg Thielmann said this week.

Intelligence agencies agreed on the "lack of a meaningful connection to al-Qaida" and said so to the White House and Congress, said Thielmann, who left State's Bureau of Intelligence and Research in September.

Another former Bush administration intelligence official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, agreed there was no clear link between Saddam and al-Qaida.

"The relationships that were plotted were episodic, not continuous," the former official said.

## Graham: Al-Qaida still in U.S.

WASHINGTON — A congressional investigation into the Sept. 11 attacks has concluded that 70,000 and 120,000 terrorists were trained by al-Qaida and some are still in the United States, Sen. Bob Graham, R-Fla., said Sunday.

"We have to assume that as those people were placed around the world, some were placed inside the United States. Some of them are in the United States today," Graham said on NBC's "Meet the Press."

After months of investigation and a series of congressional hearings last year, the House and Senate Intelligence

panels wrapped up their report Dec. 20 and released a summary.

The full classified report is still under review at the FBI and CIA, which are trying to determine whether any disclosure of information might pose a risk to national security and should remain secret.

Graham, a Democratic presidential candidate and the senior Democrat on the Senate Intelligence Committee, has criticized the administration repeatedly for delaying release of the report. He said Sunday the administration has approved inclusion of the estimate of al-Qaida's terrorist training in the final report.

Graham said that estimate shows that the Bush administration "lost focus" when it turned its attention to war with Iraq.

"We allowed al-Qaida to regroup and regenerate," he said. "They've conducted a series of very sophisticated operations, thus far none of it in the United States, but seven Americans were killed in Saudi Arabia."

## Marines blame lax security

CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. — Complacency about the threat of terrorism on a Kuwaiti island where U.S. troops were training enabled gunmen to open fire on Marines last year, killing one and injuring another, according to investigators.

Lt. Gen. James T. Conway, who ordered the Marine Corps investigation, blamed the death of Cpl. Antonio R. Sleds on incorrect assumptions about security at the training site and mistakes in military trauma care.

"While it is impossible to say if everything had been done right and in a timely manner that this young Marine would have recovered, I do believe that the chances would have been greatly improved and that recovery was more than a remote possibility," Conway wrote in his May 25 endorsement of the investigation's findings.

The Marine Corps released portions of the investigation Thursday to The Associated Press, which requested a copy under the Freedom of Information Act. Portions were deleted for privacy or national security concerns.

The attack on Oct. 8, 2002, came in the early stages of the U.S. military build-up in preparation for the invasion of Iraq.

The Marines were attacked on Faylaka Island, about 12 miles north of Kuwait City. Sleds, a 20-year-old rifleman from Hillsborough, Fla., died several hours after he was shot. Lance Cpl. George R. Simpson, 21, was shot in the left arm.

Marines in the company's command tent returned fire, killing both attackers. Authorities later identified the shooters as Kuwaiti citizens with ties to Osama bin Laden's network.

Also, Marine Corps officials said that the military hospital in Kuwait City lacked a full surgical staff when Sleds was taken there. A surgical team was doing an appendectomy when he arrived, and officials also suggest the blood supply was limited.

Conway said that all the deficiencies would be corrected. Since the shooting, the Army has staffed its force protection office in Kuwait full time.

## Female soldier killed in Iraq

FORT CARSON, Colo. — An Army sergeant killed by a gunshot wound in Iraq became the second U.S. servicewoman to die in the war.

Sgt. Melissa Valles, 26, of Eagle Pass, Texas, died Wednesday from non-combat injuries, according to the Defense Department. The accident was under investigation and details were not released.

Valles was with the headquarters detachment of 64th Forward Support Battalion, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, Fort Carson officials said Friday.

"We know it is a gunshot wound to the abdomen. We just don't know the circumstances," said Lt. Col. Tom Budzyna, base spokesman.

The first woman to die in the Iraq war was Pfc. Lori Piestewa, 22, of Tuba City, Ariz., who was killed March 23. She was with Pfc. Jessica Lynch when their Humvee crashed into another vehicle.

## Company sues NYC to recover costs

NEW YORK — A company sued the city Thursday for the cost of 100,000 body bags that it said the city hastily ordered after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks but later realized were not needed.

Fordson Packaging Ltd., of Hackensack, N.J., said in the lawsuit that it was owed at least \$203,388 for the body bags the city ordered immediately after two planes hit the World Trade Center.

According to the lawsuit, the company put other orders on hold to respond to the city's needs, delivering the bags within a week.

The city used some bags, it added.

The company said the city tried to reject the bags on the grounds that they were not suitable for their intended use when the "true reason" was that far fewer bodies were recovered from the disaster scene than were first anticipated.

Kate O'Brien Ahlers, a city law department spokeswoman, said the city had not yet received the court papers and had no immediate comment.

From wire reports

# Diverse governing council named in Iraq

BY HAMZA HENDAWI

The Associated Press

BAGHDAD, Iraq — A 25-member governing council of prominent Iraqis from diverse political and religious backgrounds was named at an inaugural meeting Sunday, the first national body since the fall of Saddam Hussein and a crucial first step on the nation's path to democracy.

In its first public act, the council declared April 9 as a national holiday marking Saddam's fall from power and wiped out six dates that were celebrated under the old regime.

"The establishment of this council represents the Iraqi national will after the collapse of the dictatorial regime," said council member Mohammed Bahr al-Uloom, a prominent Shiite cleric from Najaf, announcing the new holiday.

The multiethnic panel will have real political muscle with the power to name ministers and approve the 2004 budget, but final control of Iraq still rests with the top American administrator, L. Paul Bremer. Former foreign minister and council member Adnan Pachachi said he does not expect Bremer to veto council decisions and believed negotiations would settle all disputes.

Yet to be seen, however, is whether the council can convince the Iraqi people that it represents them, despite the fact they never had a chance to vote on its members. Coalition leaders say an election in Iraq is not yet practical.

The council said it would select its leadership on Monday. The majority of members are Shiites — who make up a 60 percent majority of the 24 million population — and who suffered deeply under Saddam's minority Sunni government. The council makeup was decided after more than two months of deliberations to strike a balance between Iraq's factions: 13 Shiites, 5 Kurds, 5 Sunnis, 1 Christian and 1 Turkoman. Three members are women.

The council members, some dressed in traditional Arabic robes, others in Islamic clerical garb and some in business suits, sat in a semicircle of chairs on a stage at a downtown Baghdad convention center. Bremer and other dignitaries watched from the front row.

"I helped deliver thousands of Iraqi babies, and now I am taking part in the birth of a new country and a new rule based on women's rights, humanity, unity and freedom," said Raja Habib al-Khuzai, one of the female members and the director of a maternity hospital in southern Iraq.

Sergio Vieira de Mello, the U.N. representative to Iraq, called the day "historic" and an important step toward returning sovereignty back to the Iraqi people.

"Iraq is moving back to where it rightfully belongs, at peace with itself and a member of the community of nations," de Mello said. He added that U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan promised the world body would be "here for you, in any way you wish, and for as long as you need."

Many of the council members were vehemently pro-American in comments made during the news conference, and several criticized Arabic television channels and the British Broadcasting Corp. for coverage they saw as pro-Saddam.

"For how long are these [Arabic] satellite channels going to wait for Saddam to return? Saddam is on the rubbish heap of history," al-Uloom said in response to a questions from a correspondent with Qatar-based Al-Jazeera.

## Government holidays

A look at holidays abolished by the new Iraqi governing council in its first official act, and the new holiday declared to mark the ouster of Saddam Hussein:

### Abolished holidays

■ February 8: Baath Party first took power, 1963.

■ April 7: Foundation of Saddam's Baath Party, 1947.

■ April 17: Commemoration of Iraqi military victory in important battle for Faw during Iran-Iraq war, 1987.

■ April 28: Saddam's birthday.

■ July 17: Return of Baath party to power, 1968.

■ August 8: End of Iran-Iraq war, 1988.

### New holiday

■ April 9: The fall of Baghdad and Saddam's regime.

From The Associated Press

# Rumsfeld's reserves proposal criticized

## Memo calls for shifting many specialties to active duty

BY ESTHER SCHRADER

Los Angeles Times

WASHINGTON — With the war in Iraq severely straining the military, Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld last week ordered radical changes that, if adopted, would dramatically reshape the military services and the reserves to create a force that could mobilize for war within 15 days.

In a July 9 memo to the secretaries of the Air Force, the Navy, the Army and to the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Rumsfeld called for shifting a broad range of professional specialties from the reserves to the active-duty military.

The proposal is running into opposition from senior officials at the Navy and the Air Force, who warn that moving these jobs into the active-duty force would drive up costs. Reserve officials say they were stunned by the proposal, which they fear would shrink the role of citizen soldiers into irrelevance.

Rumsfeld's office could not be reached for comment.

Calling the effort "a matter of the utmost urgency" in the memo obtained by the Los Angeles Times, Rumsfeld ordered that plans for implementing it be drawn up by the end of the month.

Senior military officials who are working to respond to Rumsfeld's order expressed some concern Friday that he is not allowing enough time to produce a thoughtful plan.

"There's a very tight timeline to do it right," said one senior military official, speaking on condition of anonymity.

The secretary's action was a direct result of the crisis in force strength caused by the deepening violence against U.S. forces in Iraq, sources close to him in the Pentagon said.

Before and during the war, Army officials had planned for no more than 50,000 soldiers to still be in Iraq at this point. But 148,000 are still there, and with attacks against them growing in number and sophistication. Senior Pentagon officials say they expect troop numbers in the country will remain at or near the same level for years to come.

As the war on terrorism continues, more than 370,000 Army soldiers are deployed away from home and family in 120 countries around the world. About 138,000 are reservists, many in certain specialties who are being called up again and again. Another 67,000 reservists from the other military services also are deployed. Current and former army officials and military experts are warning, with growing urgency, that the all-volunteer military, 30 years old this month, cannot long tolerate the pressure.

"The U.S. Army in particular is at serious risk, because it's increasingly clear, and the administration increasingly acknowledges, that we're in Iraq for a long haul, with a large force, and the Army is being given most of, if not all of, the responsibility," said Brookings Institution military analyst Michael O'Hanlon.

"This volunteer military we've built up is one of the best military institutions in human history, and the Bush administration will risk destroying that accomplishment if they keep on the current path."

Rumsfeld is trying to deal with the problem by shifting more troops into active duty — and by eliminating or reducing the combat role traditionally played by reservists, civilians who train with their units part-time until they are called up for active duty. He left it to the services to recommend which specific units should be shifted.

It is unclear whether, or how much, his plan would increase the overall size of the active-duty Army, although Army brass argue that, even without the sort of shift Rumsfeld is proposing, the service needs more troops to fulfill its mission. Even if the services come up with plans quickly, as Rumsfeld has asked, Congress would have to approve the plan and it would take years to put into effect. Still, senior defense officials say the changes would be the most significant to the active duty and reserve forces since the introduction of the all-volunteer force in 1973.

Since then, a military traumatized by Vietnam — a war fought by draftees — has embraced the "citizen soldier" concept. A volunteer military, supplemented by a robust reserve force, is meant to ensure that political leaders and or-

inary citizens have more of a stake in the military — and are less likely to send troops into battle without popular support.

Acting on that idea, the active duty moved many of the specialties needed to fight a war — security, intelligence, transportation and logistics — over to the Reserve and the National Guard.

But the force that resulted was not designed to be in a state of constant mobilization. It currently takes from one to three months to mobilize most reserve units. Although some units are designed to deploy quickly, most must first undergo intensive training in the United States before being shipped out.

"The type of war that we're in, the war on terrorism, is going to be something that is going to require long-term commitments of our armed forces. And the way that we're structured right now is to have conflicts where you send people over, they fight, and they go home," one Pentagon official said. "The war on terrorism is a much longer, twilight struggle."

That struggle is putting unprecedented strains on the military — and the Army in particular, which shoulders the burden of peacekeeping and nation-building operations more than any other service. In recent weeks, Army officials have told Rumsfeld that the service needs more soldiers to handle its new duties.

In the months leading up to and during the war, every one of the military services implemented "stop-loss" orders, preventing soldiers on active duty from retiring even if they wanted to and, critics say, effectively turning the idea of the volunteer military on its head. Although those orders have been lifted, if current deployment rates continue as expected, tens of thousands of active-duty troops and reservists could expect a life continually on the road.

Because of the relative lack of troop strength, a typical soldier spending 2003 in Iraq might come home this winter only to be deployed again in late 2004 or 2005. The typical reservist might be deployed for another 12 months over the next few years. Civil affairs specialists, military police and intelligence specialists in the reserves

are in particularly high demand, because the regular Army has few such specialists in its ranks.

Publicly, Rumsfeld has been dismissive of increasing the size of the Army any time soon, telling senators at a hearing on Capitol Hill this week that a well-thought out rotation of forces in and out of Iraq should be adequate to meet the requirements of the military operation there without putting undue strain on troops.

But he has long complained that many of the jobs being done by active-duty soldiers might be done more cheaply and efficiently by civilian contractors.

Rumsfeld's new proposal calls for eliminating "the need for involuntary mobilization [of the National Guard and Reserve] during the first 15 days of a rapid response operation," and structuring forces "in order to limit involuntary mobilization to not more than one year every six years."

Rumsfeld suggests making more use of contractors, civilians and computers to do work that is tying up active-duty soldiers. He suggests special attention be paid to relieving pressures on reserve units, such as civil affairs, that have been called up repeatedly for deployments to Somalia, Kosovo, Afghanistan and Iraq.

Much of what Rumsfeld recommends has been under discussion by the military services for some time. The Army Reserve, for example, restructured itself a few years ago, and now fewer than 1 percent of its soldiers are combat troops.

But the Defense secretary's central proposal to shift some specialized units from the reserves to the regular Army is meeting resistance.

Senior defense officials who oppose the proposal say shifting specialties like civil affairs from the reserve force to the active-duty military will increase costs to taxpayers. For what it takes to pay for one such active-duty unit, they say, they can field three reserve units, by drawing on civilian reservists who possess the skills the Army would have to pay to develop in its ranks.

The officials also say that many reserve units can be mobilized much more rapidly than Rumsfeld gives them credit for.

But Army officials say that only by mobilizing almost exclusively active-duty soldiers can the nation be ready for war in 15 days, Rumsfeld's goal.

## 11 quarantined in Abilene, Texas

ABILENE, Texas — Eleven people, including military personnel and their relatives, were quarantined in Texas after some reported respiratory problems similar to SARS, officials said.

Officials said initial test results from eight of the 11 quarantined were negative for SARS. Two of the eight tested positive for streptococcus pneumonia.

A group of military personnel passed through the Toronto airport recently, and some reported mild to moderate respiratory problems earlier this week after returning home, said Capt. David May of Dyess Air Force Base.

Officials with the Abilene-Taylor County Public Health District said Thursday that there is no reason for alarm.

Members of the SARS containment team in Toronto expressed frustration Friday at the developments in Texas.

"The chances of this being SARS are almost beyond calculation," said Dr. James Young, Ontario's commissioner of public security. He suggested public health officials should be cautious about raising alarm about unconfirmed cases of SARS, considering the economic consequences of such reports for Toronto.

## 20 Guardmen injured in turbulence

VIRGINIA BEACH, Va. — Twenty airmen were injured Saturday when a West Virginia Air National Guard plane encountered severe turbulence and had to make an emergency landing.

Approximately 40 members of the 167th Airlift Wing were on the flight, which was bringing them home from a four-month posting in Puerto Rico, said Maj. Mike Cadle, a National Guard spokesman in Charleston, W. Va.

A spokesman for Oceana Naval Station in Virginia Beach, where the plane landed, said none of the injuries were life-threatening.

"It was a lot of bruises, like you would get in an aircraft when you get tossed out of your seat, or something like that," said Troy Snead, a spokesman for Oceana.

## Midshipman will face court-martial

ANNAPOLIS, Md. — A fourth-year U.S. Naval Academy midshipman will face a court-martial on a charge that he raped a first-year female student, an academy official said Saturday.

Midshipman Robert Curcio, 23, is accused of luring the woman into his room and raping her on Nov. 8, said his attorney, Greg McCormack.

McCormack said the two students never had sexual relations.

"These allegations are flagrantly false, and we will deal with them in court," he said. No trial date has been set.

Two sophomores at the Naval Academy also have been charged with rape involving classmates last year.

## 2 ex-Pentagon officials convicted

ALEXANDRIA, Va. — Two former Pentagon officials were convicted Thursday of taking more than \$1 million in bribes and accepting prostitutes and title-flight tickets from government contractors.

Robert Lee Neal Jr., 50, was convicted of conspiracy, extortion, money laundering, witness tampering and obstruction of justice. A Clinton appointee, he controlled a government program that distributed \$28 million annually to small minority-owned businesses.

His top assistant, Francis Delano Jones Jr., 41, was convicted of the same charges. His attorney said he would seek a new trial separate from the co-defendant.

Neal faces a maximum sentence of 125 years, and Jones faces 120 years at sentencing Oct. 3. The jury also ordered the men to forfeit \$2 million to the government.

## Navy accused of unfair labor practice

HONOLULU — The Navy has been accused of failing to take preventive measures to ensure the safety of employees at the Public Works Center at Pearl Harbor.

The International Federation of Professional Technical Engineers said a chemist in the center's environmental department has threatened a number of other civilian co-workers.

The union claimed the Navy is refusing to implement its own rules and regulations regarding violence in the workplace.

In an unfair labor practice charge filed Wednesday with the Federal Labor Relations Authority, the union named the Navy and the center's commander, Capt. Stephen Barker.

In response, Navy spokeswoman Lt. Cmdr. Jane Campbell said the center has policies regarding workplace violence that are being enforced.

The chemist, who has a history of violent behavior, took medical leave three months ago because of his behavioral problems, but there was no improvement when he returned, union spokesman Ben Toyama said.

"He has pulled a knife on a couple of people," Toyama said. "He told a couple of women, 'I can kill you at any time.' His anger and rage are out of control."

From wire reports



# Statements at hearing shock former AF cadets

The Associated Press

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. — Four women who say they were sexually assaulted while cadets at the Air Force Academy praised the panel investigating the scandal, but they had a "jaw-dropping moment" when former administrators said they never punished the women for reporting rapes.

The four were among 146 women who have reported being sexually assaulted at the academy in the past 10 years.

They met Friday with an independent panel appointed by Congress to investigate how the assault allegations were handled.

"We're very impressed with the panel. We're very disappointed with the former administration," said Beth Davis, who came forward along with Sharon Fullilove, Kira Mountjoy-Pepka and Jessica Brakey.

They said they were particularly incensed when Brig. Gen. Taco Gilbert, the school's former No. 2 officer, told the committee at a hearing that administrators "did not ignore sexual assault cases. I never blamed a victim, I never punished a victim."

"We all had a jaw-dropping moment when they said they had never punished any of us for reporting a rape," Davis said.

Each said she left the academy after being punished for reporting the attacks.

"It was difficult to leave. It feels like a

part of us is still there. We can't figure out why we are not in our cockpits or not with our units right now," said Brakey.

The four also disputed claims by Gilbert and former superintendent Lt. Gen. James Dallager that a system designed to protect the confidentiality of victims had prevented commanders from learning how serious the problem was. Dallager this week was demoted because of the scandal.

"At every opportunity, and I mean at every opportunity, I met with cadets" to instill a sense of discipline, Gilbert told the panel. "I was told there had been a sexual assault problem in the past but a highly effective program was in place."

Fullilove later disputed that, saying victims were "beating down their doors, trying to get meetings with them."

Since the scandal broke earlier this year, the military has launched at least three investigations, replaced top brass at the academy and put in a new system for handling assault allegations.

Meanwhile, the former superintendent of the academy has been demoted, the Air Force said.

Lt. Gen. James Dallager, who was removed as superintendent in March, was demoted and will retire as a major general, a drop of one rank, Air Force spokesman Doug Thar said.

Air Force Secretary James Roche said Dallager failed to "exercise the degree of leadership in this situation that we expect of our commanders."

## State has enough money to give veterans service medals

BURLINGTON, Vt. — Vermont veterans will get the service medals they were promised by the state because there's now enough money to do it.

Clayton Clark, the head of the state's Veterans Affairs Office, said Friday that his office could afford to provide medals to everyone on the state's waiting list. He estimated that number to be between 850 and 900.

In 1999, the Legislature appropriated \$10,000 for the program to award the Vermont Veteran's Medal to any veteran who had served for two years and the Distinguished Service Medal to Vermont combat veterans.

The first medals weren't ordered until after Clark was hired in 2001. They were first awarded in August, but the Distinguished Service Medals were quickly gone and the VA office had no money to buy more.

That changed after media attention focused on the problem in April.

The Legislature quickly made a budget adjustment and came up with \$15,000, then added \$25,000 to the medals fund for the current budget year.

The newly ordered Distinguished Service Medals should be available in late October, he said.

## Military services keep wooing 7-year-old

NEW PORT RICHEY, Fla. — The U.S. military is relentless in the pursuit of adventure, freedom and Joey Crossman.

The Marines made the first pitch in April, then the Navy followed with its own glossy recruiting package, promising to "accelerate" Joey's life.

Now the Air Force has weighed in, attempting to win Joey's favor with pictures of needle-nosed jets, an enlistment bonus of up to \$18,000 and college loan repayment.

Problem is, as it has been all along, this military mite is only 7.

"Now all we're waiting for is the Army," Joey's mom said Thursday.

Kathy Crossman discovered the latest proposal in the mail last week, along with a letter saying Joey was preapproved for college financial aid.

"This time, he just started laughing," she said. "We told him he could fly planes, and he said, 'No. He's got his mind set on becoming a doctor.'"

The Air Force just happens to need "hundreds" of doctors, nurses and pharmacists, all whom, according to its Web site, work "without the hassles of HMOs, tons of paperwork and poor hours."

Air Force recruiting spokesman Jason McCree said the letter sent to Joey is an obvious, if amusing, error. It is likely Joey's name got on a mailing list culled from magazine subscriptions. He is an avid reader of Boys' Life, Nickelodeon and National Geographic Kids.

"Our target age is 17 to 24; we don't target 7-year-olds," said McCree.

"But if he would like more information about the Air Force," McCree hastened to add, "we'd be happy to give it to him. World-class customer service — that's what we're all about."

What Joey is all about is Tonka trucks, Scooby-Doo, PlayStation, grilled cheese sandwiches and Sierra Mist soda.

He scoffed at the Marines and the Navy, and is cool to the Air Force as well. "It's fun flying in an airplane," Joey said, "but I wouldn't want to do it for a living."

Joey, who will start second grade later this year, has a long way to go if he wants to become a pilot.

Air Force pilots must have a four-year college degree and pass rigorous flight exams. They must be at least 5 feet 3. Joey, a bristle-haired 58-pounder, tops off at about 4 feet.

Said Crossman: "He needs to stay with Mommy a while longer."

From wire reports

## Storm watch in Texas as Claudette churns in Gulf

SOUTH PADRE ISLAND, Texas — A hurricane watch was posted Sunday along the South Texas coast as Tropical Storm Claudette crawled across the Gulf of Mexico, and campers packed up and left low-lying South Padre Island.

The storm was expected to make landfall at near hurricane strength as early as Tuesday, said Miles Lawrence, a forecaster at the National Hurricane Center in Miami.

The tropical storm swept over Mexico's resort city of Cancun early Friday, battering high-rise hotels with high wind, flooding several streets and closing the international airport for several hours.

## Enron files reorganization plan

HOUSTON — Enron Corp.'s thousands of creditors will get next to nothing when the scandal-ridden company emerges from bankruptcy as two companies with new names.

The energy company's much-anticipated reorganization plan, filed early Friday after five deadline extensions, said most creditors will receive 14.4 cents to 18.3 cents on every dollar owed. The bankruptcy, one of the most expensive in history, has 20,000 creditors owed an estimated \$67 billion.

The rest of Enron's plan, already approved by major creditors, says creditors will divvy up proceeds from asset sales and auctions and receive equity in the two new companies — one domestic, the other international.

## Former officer awarded \$3 million in shooting mixup

NEW YORK — A suit brought by an undercover policeman who was shot by an off-duty officer was settled with the city for \$3 million.

The suit, originally for \$50 million, was the result of an August 1994 shooting during a mixup on a subway platform.

In the incident, Desmond Robinson was shot five times by Peter Del Debbio, who thought Robinson was an assailant whose shotgun had discharged on the subway.

Del Debbio was convicted of using excessive force and sentenced to five years probation and was fired from the police department.

Robinson was left walking with a limp.

A judge later ruled that the city was liable for Robinson's injuries because off-duty officers are required to carry weapons.

## Sharpton facing tax audit, FEC report shows

WASHINGTON — Democratic presidential hopeful Al Sharpton is the subject of a federal tax audit, a new financial disclosure report shows.

The report, filed with the Federal Election Commission on Thursday by Sharpton attorney Michael Hardy, said Sharpton is facing a civil audit. The Internal Revenue Service audit covers several years in the 1990s, Hardy said.

"We don't know what the result will be. They could owe me," Sharpton said. Hardy said he didn't know what prompted the audit.

Sharpton's report to the FEC also shows that he earned at least \$381,900 last year through various enterprises, including \$120,000 from Rev. Al Productions for speeches and sermons; \$78,000 from the National Action Network, his nonprofit social justice organization; \$75,000 from Kensington Publishing for his book, "Al on America;" and \$25,000 from PepsiCo. for his work as a member of the company's black advisory board.

Presidential candidates are required to file reports with the FEC detailing their finances.

## New shoe policy at airports: Removing them is optional

WASHINGTON — Travelers no longer will encounter conflicting rules about removing their shoes at airports.

At some airports, passengers have been told they had to take off their shoes before passing through metal detectors; at others, it was optional.

The Transportation Security Administration now says removing shoes will be optional. However, passengers will be warned their chances of being asked to submit to a more thorough secondary screening will be greater if they do not take off their shoes and put them through X-ray machines.

"We must make sure our security process is consistent so air travelers know what to expect at every airport in the country," TSA chief James Loy said in a statement.

The TSA has found security lines move faster if everybody removes their shoes. Shoes with metal shanks or steel toes, for example, set off metal detectors and must then be screened with hand-held wands, slowing the process of clearing passengers into gate areas.

## Fleischer's all wet

ANDREWS AIR FORCE BASE, Md. — White House press secretary Ari Fleischer thought he was only posing for pictures when he was brought to the nose of Air Force One after President Bush returned from a trip to Africa on Saturday.

What he didn't know was that his staff had enlisted a base fire engine to help mark the end of Fleischer's 2½-year tenure as Bush's chief spokesman.

He quickly realized what was up when the mist from the engine's hose blew his way.

## NYC mayor's remarks uncork beer vs. wine class war

NEW YORK — Ahhh, the joys of a summer day, when the toughest decision might be the choice between a perfectly chilled bottle of wine and an ice cold beer.

That choice might be a little easier these days in New York City, where Mayor Michael Bloomberg uncorked a brouhaha by suggesting that while drinking wine in the park with the symphony is fine, beer and the beach just don't mix.

The comment has set off allegations of snobbery and classism, a problem for the billionaire mayor who was already perceived by many New Yorkers as unable to relate to them and their problems.

The whole mess started on the Fourth of July, when people hosting a fund-raiser on Rockaway Beach in Brooklyn for memorials to World Trade Center victims were rousted by police for drinking beer.

The city's open-container law bans alcohol in parks and beaches.

A few days later, thousands of people sipped wine in Central and Prospect parks as they listened to the New York Philharmonic during free performances followed by fireworks. Police did not issue a single citation.

Bloomberg said that enforcement of public drinking laws is at the discretion of individual police officers and that his neighbors in the park were "behaving."

He said inebriated people on the beach run a much greater risk of harming themselves, as opposed to those who drink in the more placid confines of the park.

From wire reports

# Officials worried over molester who got away

BY ROGER ALFORD

The Associated Press

LOUISA, Ky. — As jurors deliberated his fate on child molestation charges, Truman Evans stepped outside of the courthouse of this small Appalachian community for what he said was a breath of fresh air.

But in the mere 30 minutes it took the jury to convict the former Baptist minister, Evans slipped away in a Buick he rented before the trial and parked near the courthouse.

Evans, 57, hasn't been seen since he fled July 1, and authorities are cautioning churches to be on the lookout for a man they say will manipulate people and is a potential threat to their children.

"If he surfaces, I believe it's going to be in a church environment," said De-

fective Rob Garnes, lead investigator for the state police.

Deputy Sheriff Rick May said while everyone was concentrating on the two-day trial, Evans, who was free on \$50,000 bond, was biding his time and waiting to execute a plan to keep him from being sent to the prison where he had once worked as a guard.

Evans had taken the stand earlier in the day, claiming his two young accusers made up the stories about being molested because he had spanked them.

In case jurors didn't buy his story, May said, Evans had rented a bronze 2003 Buick Century the day before his trial began and parked it near the courthouse.

The car was found Friday afternoon at an Ashland shopping mall.

Garnes said the night Evans was convicted, he paid \$4,880 cash for a purple

1998 Pontiac Sunfire at a car dealership in nearby Ironton, Ohio. Evans used an alias to register the car, Garnes told The Daily Independent of Ashland.

The salesperson recognized Evans and called police, Garnes said.

The salesperson had driven Evans to the mall to leave the Buick, Garnes told the newspaper.

May theorizes that Evans, who arrived at court each day in a different car, planned to sit through the trial, then drive away in the rental car while the jury deliberated. That way, May said, he could return and face misdemeanor bail-jumping charges if he was acquitted — or not return at all if he was convicted of the sodomy charges. "He may have even left the country," May said. "We really don't know."

Jurors convicted Evans of first-degree sodomy and criminal attempt to commit first-degree sodomy for forc-

ing the two children to perform oral sex on him. They recommended a life sentence, plus 20 years.

Garnes said Evans' ministry at the Bradley Gap Free Will Baptist Church ended amid allegations of an adulterous relationship and drunkenness. Testimony about those allegations was not permitted in the trial.

Garnes said Evans likely will prey on other children if he has an opportunity. The next victims, Garnes said, could be anywhere.

"If I had to guess, I would say he has left the area," Garnes said.

John David Preston, the attorney who represented Evans in the trial, said the evidence was "hotly contested" and he believes the conviction could be overturned on appeal.

Prosecutor Tom Skeans described Evans as a self-centered man who abused the children with no concern for anyone other than himself.

## Driver charged in crash deaths

LEBANON, Tenn. — A woman whose stolen car crashed and killed two officers at the end of a high-speed chase on Interstate 40 was indicted Friday on charges including two counts of first-degree murder.

Fallon Tallent, 21, was also charged with two counts of felony murder and two counts of second-degree murder in the deaths of Mount Juliet Police Sgt. Jerry Mundy and Wilson County Sheriff's Deputy John Musice.

The death penalty is a possibility for the first-degree murder counts, but Wilson County prosecutor Bobby Hibbett said it hasn't been decided whether to pursue that yet.

Bond was set at \$4 million for Tallent. The grand jury did not consider charges against 33-year-old Dorothy Cash, who was a passenger in the 1986 Mercedes-Benz that Tallent was driving.

Cash was listed in stable condition at Vanderbilt University Medical Center with unspecified injuries.

Mundy, 43, and Musice, 49, were struck Wednesday morning after placing a spike strip on Interstate 40. State investigators are trying to determine whether Tallent hit the officers by accident while trying to avoid the spike strip or rammed them on purpose.

Beth Tucker Womack, spokeswoman for the state Safety Department, said Friday.

## Waiter, there's a mouse in my chili

NEW YORK — A Bronx man was arrested on charges that he threatened a manager at a Wendy's restaurant with a chair after he said he had bit into a mouse in his chili, police said.

Police said they were charging the man, Charles Black, 36, with third-degree menacing.

Police said Black was taken to Jacobi Medical Center. Hospital spokesman Michael Heller confirmed a patient was treated at the hospital for ingesting a rodent and released, but declined to identify the patient.

Denny Lynch, a spokesman for Wendy's International, based in Dublin, Ohio, said that the restaurant's manager acknowledged that the chili did have a "foreign object" in it.

"We don't know what it is," Lynch told the newspaper for its Saturday editions. "From what we've seen, it wasn't easily recognizable."

## Man kills self after wife flees

NEW YORK — A Queens man apparently killed himself early Saturday after holding his estranged wife hostage in her apartment for more than 24 hours, police said.

Karan Persaud, 48, was able to escape safely and police entered the home to find Indrani Jawana Persaud dead of what appeared to be a self-inflicted gunshot wound, according to Det. Cheryl Crispin, a police spokeswoman.

The woman was uninjured, police said.

Published reports said Karan Persaud had a history of violence and had held his estranged wife captive several times before, threatening her with a machete, a live electrical cord and a knife.

## Man gets life for abusing baby girl

ROANOKE, Va. — A man who sexually abused his girlfriend's 15-month-old daughter was sentenced Friday to life in prison.

The prison term fits "as appropriately as any disposition I've ever seen," Circuit Judge Jim Swans said at the sentencing hearing for Timothy Hackney.

The children's mother, who is not being named to

protect the child's identity, received a suspended 20-year prison sentence after admitting she gave Hackney access to her twins, a girl and a boy, even though she knew Hackney was abusing the daughter.

Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney Melanie Meneff said the twins' foster parents struggle still to bathe the children because they scream and cry as they fight to escape the bathtub. She said the girl puts objects in front of her, as if to protect herself.

## Woman charged with poisoning baby

FLEETWOOD, Pa. — A woman has been charged with poisoning her 5-week-old granddaughter by pouring salt into the infant's formula, authorities said.

Police said that Merry Long, 43, poured about two cups of salt into a can of powdered baby formula because she was angry at her son and his girlfriend, who is the child's mother. The couple and the child were living with Long at the time of the Feb. 11 poisoning, according to authorities.

The mother unknowingly mixed the formula with water and fed it to the baby, who went into convulsions and died Feb. 18, officials said.

Long fled the area after confessing Feb. 24 that she put salt in the formula because she was angry with the couple for the way they were treating her.

Long was charged Friday with homicide, aggravated assault and reckless endangerment. Authorities have not explained why they were unable to file charges earlier.

She has not been found.

The child, Megan Long, died from brain swelling caused by excessive sodium, the Dauphin County coroner's office said.

## The tea made him do it?

PANAMA CITY, Fla. — Criminal charges were dropped against a man whose defense lawyer claimed that drinking jasmine tea made him temporarily insane before he smashed his way into a neighbor's house and chased the woman with a dagger.

Police said they found a wild-eyed Gilbert Walker, 43, outside the house in nearby Callaway yelling, "I'm crazy" after he had broken a glass door with a brass duck. The neighbor ran screaming down the street until a motorist stopped and gave her a ride to a store where she called police.

The judge dismissed aggravated assault and burglary charges Wednesday after receiving reports from three court-appointed psychologists. They agreed that Walker suffered from psychosis but offered no opinion on what caused it, Alton Paulk of the state attorney's office said Friday.

## Former youth supervisor sucks toes

SANTA ANA, Calif. — The former supervisor of a Newport Beach youth program was sentenced Friday to life in prison on 25 counts of lewd conduct and assault for sucking the toes of 20 boys.

Trenton Veches, 32, will be eligible for parole in 15 years.

At his trial, Veches' lawyer said his actions with boys 6 to 10 years old were "horseplay." But the prosecutor said Veches "clearly befriended these children, manipulated them and he sexually molested them."

Veches' mother, Joyce Ormes, said the sentence was too harsh.

"I don't know how he can spend life in prison for this when there was no sexual contact with the genitals, things like that," she said.

Veches was arrested in April 2002 after a co-worker reported seeing him sucking a boy's toes.

## Autopsy: Convict shot seven times

SEATTLE — A fugitive who was killed in a police raid after using a cardboard gun to escape from a courthouse last month was shot seven times, according to an autopsy.

Harold McCord Jr., 36, had faced life imprisonment under Washington's "three strikes" law for repeat violent offenders when he wielded the fake gun and escaped from a Tacoma courtroom June 23.

The next day, eight police officers forced their way into an apartment and shot McCord when he refused to surrender.

He was struck in the shoulder, chest, buttocks, arm, hand and both thighs during the raid, according to the autopsy, which was written by King County associate medical examiner Dr. Brian Mazrim and obtained by the Seattle Post-Intelligencer.

Bradley Marshall, an attorney for McCord's family, said he believes the report shows the fugitive was in a defensive position, on the ground with his back turned, when he was shot and was not a threat to the officers.

"I'm very troubled by what I see," Marshall said in the newspaper's Friday edition.

Forensics experts cautioned that it is difficult to determine from an autopsy report alone precisely how a person was positioned during a shooting.

McCord, who had been convicted of robbery, harassment, assault and kidnapping, was in court for a hearing. After escaping, he hijacked a pickup truck.

As police forced down the apartment door, he yelled several times that he had a gun, a Snohomish County Sheriff's spokeswoman has said.

## Deputies hurt after eating glass

TAMPA, Fla. — Two sheriff's deputies who ate glass shards after biting into their McDonald's cheeseburgers were the victims of a deliberate attack, authorities said Friday.

No arrests had been made, but three McDonald's workers who handled the food were taken in to the sheriff's office for questioning, said Hillsborough County Sheriff's spokesman Lt. Rod Rader.

Stuart O'Shannon, 32, suffered severe cuts in his mouth after eating the glass. Daniel Witt, 24, was not injured but had to be taken to the hospital for an examination. Both officers were released Friday.

The restaurant where the incident occurred is in an area of Tampa that has had long-running problems with drugs, robberies and assaults.

## Mother: Voice mail left about death

OMAHA, Neb. — Police have apologized to a woman who learned her son was killed in a traffic accident from a voice mail message an officer left on her telephone.

"I want to see that police officer reprimanded and I want some kind of training in that program so that it will never, ever happen again," said Judie Howell, whose 34-year-old son, Bobby, was killed June 26 in a Cass County car accident.

Howell said an Omaha police officer left her a message telling her about the accident and that her son's body was sent to a funeral home in Plattsmouth. She filed a complaint with the Omaha Police Department.

Officer Cathy Martinec, a police spokeswoman, said the matter was being investigated.

Under standard department procedures, notification should be made in person by a uniformed officer and one other person, Martinec said. If a survivor cannot be found, a message must be left either at a residence or a place of business asking them to contact police as soon as possible.

From wire reports



## Singapore's uptight image gets legal help

The Associated Press

SINGAPORE — Singapore will now permit bungee jumping. Also, people can dance on the bar in saloons allowed to stay open 24 hours. And theater performances can use explicit language.

"In fact, so changed is our mind-set that we will even allow reverse bungee," Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong said Saturday, in launching a "Remake Singapore" program designed to shake up the dull image of this famously uptight city-state.

Or at least try. While being catapulted into the sky at the end of a giant rubber band is now allowed, jaywalking at bus stations is forbidden, under tougher rules also announced Saturday.

So Singapore's government remains in strict control, even in its efforts to loosen up and market itself as a media and arts center.

Among the committee's more than 100 proposals to remodel society is an "Audience Development Fund" to "educate" citizens about art and encourage flea markets with no government permit.

Earlier, the prime minister also said his administration would begin employing openly gay people, a surprising development in Singapore, where homosexuality is thought to violate conservative Asian social norms.

"Not every room needs to be furnished to the same taste," Goh said.

# Child killing shocks Japan

BY DOUG STRUCK  
AND SACHIKO SAKAMAKI

The Washington Post

TOKYO — Four-year-old Shun Tanemoto told his mother he would be in the video-game department as they shopped in an electronics store last week.

When she came to retrieve him a few minutes later, he was gone. His body, stripped naked, was found the next morning, apparently thrown from a parking garage.

The crime caused headlines, but when Nagasaki police traced images on a security camera, the result was even more disturbing. The photos showed another boy, wearing a school uniform, leading the young child away. On Wednesday, police announced that a 12-year-old schoolboy, described as "a good student," had confessed to the kidnapping and murder.

For Japan, the story came as yet another of the periodic reminders that the society is not as safe as its reputation suggests.

And this incident, involving such young children, has prompted an unusual cry for vengeance.

Shun's parents, distraught that the alleged killer is too young to be tried in criminal court in Japan, said Thursday they wished the death penalty could be used on the 12-year-old. A government minister, Yoshitada Konoike, Friday added that the alleged murderer's parents ought to be punished.

"The parents should be dragged

through the streets and beheaded," Konoike said. "Then parents and their children would be more careful."

Such violent prescriptions are unusual in debate here, where murder is considered an aberration and society still sees itself as uniquely law-abiding and safe.

There has been little public debate about Japan's steady 14-year climb in violent crime, now at its highest level since 1968, except to blame foreigners, who contribute a statistically minuscule part of the rise.

Japanese still note that the country's murder rate has stayed fairly steady for a decade and remains at one-fifth that of the United States.

This crime shocked the country because it added to a sporadic tally of particularly vicious crimes involving youths. In 1997, a 14-year-old boy in Kobe cut off the head of an 11-year-old and left it outside a school gate. Just last week, three teenagers were arrested in Okinawa for allegedly beating a 13-year-old schoolmate to death and burying his body in a cemetery.

Now police in Nagasaki say they are investigating whether the 12-year-old in their custody was involved in molesting four other young children. Police said witnesses had seen a schoolboy with some of the other victims, raising public questions as to whether authorities had taken the previous incidents seriously enough.

But others say the spotlight ought to be on Japan's treatment of its children. They ask whether the society's emphasis on conformity and rules leaves room to deal with the emotions of youngsters.

"Japanese society has paid little attention to developing social skills," said Kosuke Yamazaki, principal of a high school in suburban Tokyo and a specialist in child psychiatric medicine. "An increasing number of high school children don't even understand when they are committing a crime. The society needs to teach them more what's right and wrong. The ability of the society to nurture children has diminished."

Children in Japan also are vulnerable as potential victims. They typically walk by themselves to school at a young age, and children often ride buses and subways alone. Japan has not been willing to give up its habits of trust and belief in its safety.

Even after a knife-wielding man rampaged through an elementary school in Osaka two years ago, stabbing eight children to death, Japan has been slow to give up freedoms in the name of security, preferring to see those crimes involving children as unique occurrences.

Many of the Japanese media accounts puzzled over the fact that the accused 12-year-old seemed so unlikely a suspect for such a violent act. They carried descriptions of him as a good student, with good grades, who never missed a day of school.

"Everybody wants a simple explanation they can understand," said Takeshi Kitazawa, a professor of educational sociology at Rikkyo University in Tokyo and author of a thesis on the Kobe beheading case.

"If you can think that this boy is abnormal, different from other normal kids, then you feel relieved."

## Belgium to replace war crimes law

BRUSSELS, Belgium — In its first decision since taking office, Belgium's re-elected center-left government has agreed to replace a war crimes law that has clouded relations with the United States, Israel and other nations.

Just hours after his ministerial team was sworn in by King Albert II, Prime Minister Guy Verhofstadt announced late Saturday his plans to supplant the 1993 law which has been used to target foreign leaders including President Bush, British Prime Minister Tony Blair, and Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon.

"Changing the universal competence law is a priority of this government," Verhofstadt told reporters.

The new bill is expected to be adopted by parliament before the summer recess starting in early August. It will limit the law to cases where the victim or suspect are Belgian citizens or resident in the country for at least three years.

Under the current law, introduced in 1993, Belgian courts were given powers to hear war crimes complaints regardless of where the events occurred or the nationality of those involved.

Originally used to target suspects in Rwanda's 1994 genocide, the law became a political embarrassment for the government after a spate of complaints were filed against senior U.S. officials this year after the Iraq war.

Furious that the U.S. Iraq war commander Gen. Tommy Franks had been targeted by a left-wing Belgian lawyer, the Bush administration warned such complaints could force NATO to abandon its Brussels headquarters.

Faced with such pressure, Verhofstadt made changing the law the focal point of his new government's inaugural meeting.

He said abuse of the legislation for political ends would no longer be tolerated. The liberal and socialist parties in the new government already agreed on the changes last month during coalition negotiations.

## Iran resignation offer

TEHRAN, Iran — Iran's besieged president said he would resign if Iranians — dissatisfied over his failure to deliver promised reforms — want him to, according to press reports Saturday.

Mohammad Khatami's offer to step down came amid continuing attempts by ruling hard-line clerics to stymie his reform agenda and deepening public discontent over the country's slow pace toward democratic change.

"We are not masters of people but servants of this nation. If this nation says we don't want you, we will go," Khatami was quoted as saying by the government-owned daily, Iran.

He made the comments in a speech in Karaj, west of the capital, Tehran, on Thursday, but the state-run television and radio censored the part about his possible resignation.

Thousands of Iranian's held nightly protests for a week last month, railing not only against their usual targets — Iran's hard-line Islamic establishment — but also against Khatami over his failure to introduce greater political, social and economic freedoms.

## No injuries in Turkey quake

ANKARA, Turkey — A strong earthquake with a preliminary magnitude of 5.7 collapsed two empty houses in Doganyol and caused cracks at some buildings

in Puturge early Sunday but there were no injuries, officials said.

The quake struck the town of Puturge of southeastern Malatya province, some 435 miles southeast of the capital Ankara, just before dawn at 4:48 a.m..

## Photojournalist dies in Iran

TEHRAN, Iran — A Canadian photojournalist allegedly beaten into a coma by Iranian police for taking pictures of a Tehran prison has died, a senior Iranian official said Saturday.

Zahra Kazemi, 54, died late Friday in a Tehran hospital after suffering a "brain stroke," Mohammad-Hossein Khoshvaqt, an official in the Ministry of Culture and Islamic Guidance, said in a statement.

## Scientists investigate a Chilean blob

A large and mysterious blob of gray flesh that washed up on a Chilean beach may be the remains of a never-before-seen species of giant octopus, and researchers are using a genetic test to find out.

"If it is a giant octopus, that is significant," said Steven Carr, a geneticist at Memorial University in Newfoundland who specializes in the molecular biology of marine organisms.

The Chilean blob is 40 feet long, as long as seven tall men lying head-to-toe in the sand. If it is an octopus, it is either a new species or by far the largest specimen ever seen of an existing species. Researchers have found giant squids bigger than a bus, but have never seen an octopus that even approaches that size.

From wire reports

## Memoirs of a porn star

In her new memoir, **Traci Lords** recalls that her centerfold in **Penthouse** at age 15 was overshadowed and how an FBI raid that ended her career in adult films "saved my life."

Lords, 34, says she used a fake ID to pose for the magazine — in the same 1984 issue with nude photos of **Vanessa L. Williams**, who was forced to resign her title as **Miss America**.

"The ID said I was 22 or 23 and of course I had a made-up name and a fake ID and the whole thing, but I look like a kid," Lords said Thursday.

Lords, who made dozens of adult films while a teenager, remembers subsequently being happy about an FBI raid on her apartment.

"Ultimately, they saved my life, so I'm really glad that that happened because I have no doubt in my

## Faces 'n' places

mind that I would have ultimately ended up OD'd dead someplace, and I would've been another statistic," she said

## Beyonce raises ruckus at tomb

The head of a private historical group says the government and NBC television should have stopped a scantily clad **Beyonce Knowles** from dancing in a "patently inappropriate" way on the steps of the tomb of **President Ulysses S. Grant**.

**Frank Scaturro**, president of the **Grant Monument Association**, wrote letters Saturday to NBC, **Secretary**

of the Interior **Gale Norton** and **National Park Service** director **Fran Mainella** over Beyonce's nationally televised Fourth of July performance.

Saying the former **Destiny's Child** singer used "lascivious choreography" and barely dressed backup dancers, Scaturro's letter to NBC complained: "At that location, a certain decorum should have been observed from which popular entertainers are not exempt."

**Ulysses Grant Dietz**, the great-great-grandson of the Civil War hero and 18th president, said Saturday he didn't object as a rule to most live performances, as long as the tomb is carefully maintained. But he suggested organizers be more thoughtful.

"If they're doing a Fourth of July celebration and they're doing it at a grave of a president, maybe they should look a little more closely at what the performances are," Dietz said.

From wire reports

# 'This time it counts'

## MLB is banking on tie-in with World Series to increase All-Star Game's intensity, fan interest

BY BEN WALKER

The Associated Press

CHICAGO — Scott Rolen cringes. To him, the notion that players will now try harder in the All-Star Game because "this time it counts" — as TV keeps bleating — is crazy.

"I think it's insulting to think guys don't go out and give everything they have when they step on an All-Star field," the NL's starting third baseman said.

"You don't need added motivation," the St. Louis slugger said. "There's no lack of effort, at all."

But the fact is, there is something significant at stake this time. The league that wins the All-Star Game gets home-field advantage in the World Series — and it is a big edge, with the home team having won the past eight Game 7s.

That said, Tuesday night's event at U.S. Cellular Field in Chicago could take on a different look.

As in, it may not come down to a bullpen battle between relative newcomer Lance Carter and ineffective Mike Williams. Barry Bonds might not hoist Ichiro Suzuki after getting robbed of a home run.

There could be an intentional walk or a sacrifice bunt, and pitchers might go longer — no AL starter has gone three innings since Bret Saberhagen in 1987.

"I think you'll see the managers put a little more emphasis on winning the ballgame as opposed to trying to get everybody into the ballgame. And that's really the way it should be," said Tampa Bay's Lou Piniella, who guided the NL in 1991.

No telling whether those playful snapshots will disappear.

Randy Johnson produced a couple with a pair of over-the-top pitches, causing John Kruk to pat his heart in 1993 and Larry Walker to turn around and bat right-handed in 1997. Chances are Tommy Lasorda won't show up in the third-base coaching box and take a tumble, either, as he did in 2001.

Yet unlike All-Star games in other sports, baseball doesn't lend itself to holding back. There may be no blitzing in the Pro Bowl, little defense in the NBA and hardly any checking in the NHL showcases, but no pitcher is going to throw 65 mph fastballs and no hitter is going to try to make outs.

Linking the All-Star Game to the World Series — a two-year experiment that drew the ire of many fans — was prompted by Fox after its telecast last July drew a record low rating.

There also was an outcry after the game ended in a 7-7 tie after 11 innings at Miller Park when both teams ran out of pitchers. The result was so disastrous that Commissioner Bud Selig was booed in his own Milwaukee back yard; the outcome also forced rosters to expand from 30 to 32, giving each team 12 pitchers.

Fox will treat it a more like a real game, too. No interviews with players until they're taken out and no back-and-forth banter between managers Dusty Baker and Mike Scioscia, the way Joe Torre and Bob Brenly did last time.

The All-Star switch is certainly not going to affect the Detroit Tigers, who by far have the worst record in the majors. Yet their lone representative, outfielder Dmitri Young, is well aware of what the game means.

"I just know that if the American League loses and our champions don't get the home-field advantage against a National League wild-card team with 88 wins, they are going to be pretty upset," he said.

"I'm not going to be thinking about it — I'm just looking forward to playing in the game. I think it is just a reaction to last year's fiasco," he said.

Baker, who managed San Francisco last October when it lost Game 7 at Anaheim, figures players will be as serious as ever. They had a role this time, getting an All-Star vote for the first time since 1969.

Sammy Sosa surely didn't hold back last year when he tried to hustle from first to third on a single to left field and was thrown out by Manny Ramirez. And Torii Hunter went all out to snatch away a home run from Bonds, who wrapped his arms around the Minnesota center fielder and lifted him high.

"These guys wouldn't be All-Stars if they didn't play hard," said Baker, now with the Chicago Cubs. "If a guy has that much pride and inner drive to succeed to where he is, that will certainly translate to the All-Star Game."

"These guys will have the same attitude in an Old Timers' game. Most of these guys, all they know how to do is to play hard and try to win."

OK, but how hard? Does the home-field angle alter anything?

"I guess you have to decide it some way. Flip a coin, go run around the bases or something," Cincinnati second baseman Aaron Boone said.

"I don't think it's going to be a motivating factor for anyone," he said. "I mean, you're not going to take somebody out or try and kill somebody just to win home-field advantage."

Or, as Reds teammate Ken Griffey Jr. said: "Hopefully, nobody gets hurt. We don't want another Pete Rose situation where somebody's career is ended."

Ah, the Pete Rose situation. Since Babe Ruth homered at old Comiskey Park in the first All-Star Game in 1933, there have been lots of magic moments in the midsummer classic.

Carl Hubbell struck out five straight future Hall of Famers in 1934. Ted Williams jumped for joy after hitting a three-run homer with two outs in the bottom of the ninth to win in 1941. Reggie Jackson homered off the light tower at Tiger Stadium in 1971. Pedro Martinez fanned four MVPs and home-run champion Mark McGwire at Fenway Park in 1999.

Still, nothing ever defined a time when the All-Star Game really meant something as much as when Rose struck a blow for NL pride, crashing into Cleveland's Ray Fosse to score the winning run in the bottom of 12th inning in 1970. Fosse separated his shoulder on the play and his career was never the same.

That victory at Riverfront Stadium came during a streak in which the NL won 19 of 20 games. The NL currently leads the overall series 40-31 with two ties — last year's result left intact the AL's five-game winning streak.

Los Angeles closer Eric Gagne would like to shut down the AL's string. Even though there are World Series implications, don't expect his scowl to be any more severe.

"It doesn't change anything for me. Nobody cares about that," he said. "I mean, when I step between the lines, it doesn't matter to me if it's an exhibition game or the All-Star Game or a big division game or to warm up."

### Hamilton dominates Busch race

JOLIET, Ill. — Bobby Hamilton Jr. overpowered the field, leading all but a handful of laps Saturday in winning the Tropicana Twister 300 Busch Series race.

Hamilton Jr. took the lead from pole-sitter Casey Mears on the third lap and led 186 of 200 trips around the 1½-mile Chicagoland Speedway oval, including the last 53.

The diminutive 25-year-old Hamilton came up with his third Busch Series win and second in four races. He built a lead of almost 16 seconds — about a half-lap — before one of six caution flags in the race gave Winston Cup series leader Matt Kenseth one last shot at catching the leader.

### Bliss races to IROC victory

JOLIET, Ill. — There was plenty of close racing Saturday in the third round of the International Race of Champions — for everyone but winner Mike Bliss.

Last year's NASCAR Craftsman Truck Series champion took the lead on the 19th of 67 laps at Chicagoland Speedway and stayed out front, pulling away in the late stages of the 100-lap all-star race for an easy victory.

While an intense battle raged behind him most of the way for the next five positions, the IROC rookie kept adding to an already big lead, finally beating a single-file line of Winston Cup stars, led by Ryan Newman, to the finish line by 3.252 seconds — about 15 car-lengths on the 1½-mile oval.

Newman was followed to the checkered flag by series leader Kurt Busch, Kevin Harvick, four-time IROC champion Mark Martin and Greg Biffle, a Cup rookie and last year's Busch Series champion.

### Mayorga decisions Forrest in rematch

LAS VEGAS — Ricardo Mayorga made it two in a row over Vernon Forrest, although the colorful brawler from Nicaragua had to go the distance this time.

Relentlessly pursuing his backpedaling opponent around the ring, Mayorga pounded out a 12-round majority decision over Forrest on Saturday night to retain his WBC and WBA welterweight titles.

Mayorga had stunned the previously unbeaten Forrest when he stopped him in the third round of their Jan. 25 bout in California.

## Sports in brief

The rematch was much closer — two judges favored Mayorga, a third scored it a draw — although Mayorga landed far more telling punches. There were no knockdowns, but Mayorga rocked his foe in the second round and had him wobble again in the 10th.

Ove Oveson scored it 116-112 for Mayorga, and Larry O'Connell had Mayorga winning 115-114. Judge Jerry Roth scored it 114-114.

### Suit: Tyson punched bodyguard

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. — A bodyguard for boxing promoter Don King has sued Mike Tyson, accusing the former heavyweight champ of punching him twice and breaking a bone in his face.

Isadore "Izzy" Bolton, 44, of Boynton Beach, sued Tyson for compensatory damages of more than \$15,000 and expects to seek punitive damages as the suit progresses, said Bolton's attorney Bob Montgomery. The lawsuit was filed Friday in Palm Beach County Circuit Court.

McGovern said Tyson punched Bolton twice in the face and tried to drag him out of a car by his feet, leaving Bolton with a broken orbital bone above his left eye. He had to get stitches and now has double vision, Bolton's lawyers said.

Bolton didn't report the incident to police, McGovern said.

### U.S. beats El Salvador to open CONCACAF Gold Cup

FOXBORO, Mass. — The return of Brian McBride and other key players helped the United States rebound from last month's failure in France and disappoint flag-waving El Salvador fans.

McBride had a goal and an assist Saturday when the United States beat El Salvador 2-0 in an opening game of the CONCACAF Gold Cup.

The United States scored just one goal in going 0-2-1 in the Confederations Cup in June. McBride missed that tournament because his wife was due to

give birth, and captain Claudio Reyna was recovering from knee surgery.

### Els cruises to win in Scottish Open

LUSS, Scotland — British Open champion Ernie Els may never have entered a major with so much confidence.

His final 69 in the Scottish Open gave him a five-stroke victory for his second Loch Lomond triumph on Sunday, four days before he begins his Open defense at Royal St. George's.

The South African, also a two-time U.S. Open winner, stayed well clear of Darren Clarke and Phillip Price, who matched his 69 but couldn't get closer.

Gary Murphy of Ireland took fourth place after a 67. Els finished at 17-under par 267, with Clarke and Price at 272 and Murphy at 274.

Ian Poulter and Australian Peter Lonard, who ached the 17th hole with a 4-iron from 208 yards, tied for fifth.

Phil Mickelson finished his week with a 68, highlighted by a run of an eagle and three birdies on four successive holes on the back nine. He finished in a tie for 35th place at 2-under 282.

### Stadler, McCullough catch Watson in Senior Players Championship

DEARBORN, Mich. — Tom Watson stumbled at the end of the third round of the Senior Players Championship, while Craig Stadler and Mike McCullough scrambled.

The result: a three-way tie heading into the final round Sunday in the Champions Tour major.

Watson, coming off an 8-under 64 on Friday in blustery weather, made two birdies and scrambled for several pars Saturday before making his first bogey in 37 holes at No. 17.

With a par at 18, Watson shot a 1-under 71, leaving him at 11 under and knotted with Stadler and McCullough. Stadler shot a 65, the day's best round, and McCullough had a 68.

Five players, including first-round leader Gil Morgan and two-time champion Dave Stockton, were four shots back at 7 under.

From wire reports



# The case against Kobe Bryant

What happened in NBA star's hotel room holds key to sexual assault allegations

BY TRACY CONNOR  
AND DAN LUZADDER

New York Daily News

EAGLE, Colo. — The Vail Valley in Colorado is a playground for the wealthy and well-known, and the teenagers who live there year-round make a sport out of sighting celebrities.

For a 19-year-old college student working the concierge desk at the Lodge & Spa at Cordillera, meeting L.A. Lakers guard Kobe Bryant should have been a thrill.

"I can see her talking to him and wanting to meet him and all that, and coming back to tell her friends who she met," one of her friends, Casey Strickler, said.

But the young woman's brush with superstardom on a Monday night in late June didn't end with an autograph and a cool anecdote.

Instead, it led to an accusation of sexual assault that, at best, will soil Bryant's squeaky-clean image and, at worst, put him behind bars.

It was a nagging pain in his right knee that brought Bryant to the Rocky Mountains.

After the NBA season ended, he decided to have arthroscopic surgery at the Steadman Clinic in Vail and chose to stay at Cordillera, an elegant resort in the hills.

On Monday, June 30, Bryant left behind his wife of two years, Vanessa, and their 6-month-old daughter, Natalia, and hopped a flight out of Southern California.

## 'Pretty aggressive'

By all accounts, he was his usual genial self when he arrived at the lodge, chatting up hotel staffers as he settled in.

## Bryant: 'I would never do something like that'

LOS ANGELES — Speaking publicly for the first time since he was accused of sexual assault, Kobe Bryant denied the allegations and said he "would never do something like that."

"When everything comes clean, it will all be fine, you'll see," Bryant, 24, told the Los Angeles Times in a story published Sunday.

The five-time NBA All-Star would not discuss details of the case, the newspaper said.

"I shouldn't have to say anything. You know I would never do something like that," the Los Angeles Lakers star said in the brief telephone interview.

Bryant is accused of sexually assaulting a 19-year-old woman at the Lodge & Spa at Cordillera in Edwards, Colo., on June 30.

Bryant's attorneys have previously said he is innocent and expects to be exonerated.

From The Associated Press

He was charming, possibly even flirtatious, with the young concierge, a University of Northern Colorado freshman working there for the summer.

She was a blond ex-cheerleader who liked to compose jazz, but saw herself as a singer.

"She's good at music. She wants to pursue singing, but she's a pretty average student," said friend Stephanie Morris.

She made up for her average talent and looks, Morris said, by being "pretty aggressive."

For instance, she attempted to jump-start her singing ambition by trying out for "American Idol" last fall, although she didn't make it past the first round.

Late that evening, the 6-foot-6 Bryant called the hotel desk, reportedly asking for room service, and the teen went to his room.

What happened next is in dispute.

The girl claims Kobe held her against her will and sexually assaulted her. Bryant's high-powered legal team says he's completely innocent.

What's clear is there was some kind of commotion in the room, a ruckus

loud enough that another hotel guest complained to management.

Lodge staffers went to investigate, and Bryant's accuser emerged from the room shaken up, a worker told the Denver Post.

Bryant didn't seem rattled by the episode, workers said.

On Tuesday, he kept his appointment for surgery at the Steadman clinic. His accuser, meanwhile, was filing a complaint with the Eagle County sheriff's office.

She was taken to a hospital, where a forensic "rape kit" was prepared and sent to the state Bureau of Investigation for analysis.

Two sheriff's deputies began interviewing witnesses and examining "physical evidence" at the lodge, officials said. At around 11 p.m., they finally spoke to Bryant.

Not long after, the cops drove Bryant to the Valley View Hospital in Glenwood Springs, about 50 miles away, to collect DNA samples.

By the time he left the hospital around 4 a.m. Wednesday, there were cracks in his calm demeanor.

With a towel shrouding his head and

face, he dove into the back of a taxi his "nervous and anxious" bodyguards had taken to Valley View, the cabbie later told reporters.

He didn't return to the lodge. Instead, the group headed to the Hotel Colorado in Glenwood Springs.

## Arrest warrant

When Bryant left Colorado on a 7:15 p.m. flight that night, the allegations against him were still a closely guarded secret. Then on Thursday evening, Sheriff Joseph Hoy decided he would pursue an arrest warrant for Bryant — and called Bryant to give him the news.

The next day, cops sidestepped cautious county prosecutors and got a judge to sign a warrant. Bryant then got a call from Pamela Mackey, a Denver lawyer he retained.

"You need to come and turn yourself in right now," she told him.

Bryant, described as distraught, flew back to Colorado with his wife in a private plane that evening to surrender.

Cops took his mug shot and fingerprints and then sprung him on \$25,000 bond. It took less than an hour, and the Bryants flew straight home.

Last Sunday, the sheriff's office announced his surrender.

Prosecutors said they will decide this week whether to formally charge Bryant, 24, with felony sexual assault or some other crime.

The athlete's accuser, who lives with her parents in a modest house on a quiet cul de sac, hasn't spoken publicly about what happened.

Those who know her can't imagine she would fabricate such a damaging story. And those who know Bryant can't believe the charges are true.

Strickler, who hasn't talked to her friend since the incident, hasn't made up her mind.

"I don't know what the truth is, but I'm sure it will come out eventually," she said.

# After grueling Alpine climb, yellow jersey is Armstrong's

BY JOHN LEICESTER

The Associated Press

L'ALPE D'HUEZ, France — Lance Armstrong took the overall leader's yellow jersey for the first time in the Tour de France after finishing third in the second mountain stage of the race Sunday.

Iban Mayo of Spain dominated a battle with Armstrong and other riders on the final mountain ascent of the long day in the Alps, breaking from the pack to charge into the lead and win the stage.

Armstrong finished 2 minutes, 12 seconds behind Mayo, but stayed close enough to seize the overall lead.

The 31-year-old Texan, who is going for a record-tying fifth straight Tour victory, also showed signs of weakness.

After the race, Armstrong said he didn't feel as strong as in years past.

"I didn't have the greatest sensation, the greatest legs today," he said. "Let's hope things get better and not worse."

The 135-mile stage from Sallanches included the monstrous Col du Galibier, which towers 8,728 feet.

Armstrong said he could tell going up the climb that he was not having a great day.

"It was a really hard stage from the start," Armstrong said. "The whole pack attacked."

While Mayo is one of Armstrong's main challengers, the 31-year-old Texan played down the victory, saying

he didn't regard the Spaniard as a threat to him overall — yet.

Armstrong failed to shake one of his key rivals, Joseba Beloki of Spain, on the 8.5-mile climb to L'Alpe d'Huez, a ski resort at 6,105 feet.

"The attack by Beloki was very strong. The attack by Mayo wasn't too serious because he was a bit behind in the standings," Armstrong said.

Beloki was second overall, 40 seconds behind Armstrong. Mayo was third, 70 seconds back.

"A dream has become reality," Mayo after his stage win. "L'Alpe d'Huez is a mythic stage."

Armstrong blamed U.S. Postal Service teammate Manuel Beltran for some of his difficulties on the last climb.

Beltran, a newcomer to the U.S. Postal squad, powered into the climb at top speed, hoping to help Armstrong shake off his rivals.

But Armstrong said the Spaniard went too fast.

"A fast tempo is a good thing, but that was supersonic," he said. "It won't happen again."

Jan Ullrich, the 1997 champion, was left behind, however, on the dizzying climb.

"It was important to get distance from Jan Ullrich. That's the good news of the day," said Armstrong, who still considers Ullrich a threat.

"I still think he's one of the most dangerous riders in the race," said Armstrong. "This Tour has a long way to go."

## Blue Jays 10, Yankees 3

TORONTO — Roy Halladay won his 13th straight decision and Vernon Wells homered as Toronto ended a four-game losing streak with a victory over the New York Yankees on Saturday.

Halladay (13-2) became the first 13-game winner in the majors.

The 26-year-old right-hander is the first Toronto pitcher to win 13 straight

decisions since Roger Clemens won a club-record 15 in a row in 1998.

Halladay, who hasn't lost in 17 starts since April 15 against New York, allowed two runs on four hits in eight innings, striking out six and walking none.

Frank Catalanotto hit a go-ahead,

two-run single off Mike Mussina (10-6) in the seventh, giving Toronto a 4-2 lead. The Blue Jays, who had 14 hits, broke it open with six runs in the eighth against New York's bullpen.

Jason Giambi hit his 25th home run for the Yankees, who entered the day two games ahead of Boston for first

place in the AL East.

## Athletics 5, Orioles 3

OAKLAND, Calif. — Scott Hatteberg hit a tiebreaking, two-run homer off Hector Carrasco (0-1) in the eighth inning and Terrence Long had a three-run shot as Oakland beat Baltimore.

Continued on Page 10

## American League

## Bonds ties Major League record

PHOENIX — Barry Bonds and rookie Jerome Williams helped make Curt Schilling's comeback a miserable one.

Bonds tied a major league record with his 12th consecutive 30-homer season and Williams allowed two hits through six innings Saturday as San Francisco beat Arizona.

Ray Durham greeted Schilling with a home run on the second pitch of the game — the first outing for Arizona's right-handed ace since he broke his right hand May 30.

Bonds hit a ball over the swimming pool in right-center in the fourth, his major league-leading 30th home run of the season — matching the mark set by Jimmie Foxx from 1929-40.

The San Francisco star has homered in five consecutive games and eight of his past nine. He has 643 homers, 17 shy of Willie Mays for No. 3 on the career list.

Bonds also had a two-run double as San Francisco improved to 6-1 against Arizona this season and increased its NL West lead over the second-place Diamondbacks to six games.

Schilling (4-4) gave up five runs, four earned, on six hits in six innings. He struck out five and hit Bonds with a pitch.

Williams (5-1) won his fifth straight start.

## Cubs 7, Braves 3

CHICAGO — Sammy Sosa homered to start a six-run fourth and Matt Clement pitched eight strong innings as Chicago ended Atlanta's eight-game winning streak.

Since returning June 18 from a seven-game suspension for using a corked bat, Sosa has a .344 average, 12 homers and 23 RBIs. His high drive just dropped into the left-field basket at Wrigley Field, giving him 18 homers this season and seven hits in his past seven at-bats. He finished 2-for-4 after going 4-for-4 Friday with two homers.

Sosa has 517 homers, four shy of Willie McCovey and Ted Williams for 12th on the career list.

Clement (7-7) allowed three runs — two earned — and five hits, including Rafael Furcal's 13th homer, as the Cubs avoided dropping below .500 for the first time all season.

Atlanta rookie Horacio Ramirez (8-3), who'd won seven straight decisions

## National League

since April 11, lasted just 3½ innings — the shortest outing of his career.

### Phillies 4, Mets 2 (11)

NEW YORK — Placido Polanco's sacrifice fly in the 11th inning sent Philadelphia to its fifth straight victory.

Tyler Houston homered in his first game back from the disabled list and Jim Thome hit an RBI double for the Phillies. They added another run in the 11th on an error by New York shortstop Jose Reyes.

Rookie Jeff Duncan homered for the Mets, who have dropped six in a row — all at home.

Jose Mesa (4-5) pitched two scoreless innings for the victory.

John Franco (0-1) took the loss.

### Reds 5, Brewers 1

MILWAUKEE — Ken Griffey Jr. homered for the fifth straight game and Jimmy Haynes threw seven sharp innings as Cincinnati defeated Milwaukee.

Griffey's solo homer in the bottom of the eighth tied Johnny Bench's franchise record set May 30 to June 3, 1972. Griffey tied a major league record when he homered in eight straight games from July 20-28, 1993. Dale Long (1956) and Don Mattingly (1987) also did it.

Haynes (2-9) allowed four hits, including a leadoff home run to Eric Young, to win for the first time in five decisions. After Young's 12th homer, the Brewers did not get a runner past first against Haynes.

Wayne Franklin (5-6) went 6½ innings, giving up four runs on six hits.

### Expos 7, Marlins 1

MONTREAL — Livan Hernandez pitched his second straight complete game and Jose Vidro hit a three-run homer, leading Montreal over Florida.

Hernandez (9-6) scattered three hits, including Juan Pierre's RBI single with two outs in the eighth, for his 26th career complete game and third this year.

A discount tickets and hot dogs promotion drew 28,170 to Olympic Stadium, the third-largest crowd in 29 games in Montreal this season.

Vidro hit his 11th homer off Mark Red-

man (7-4) as Montreal scored four in the first before adding single runs in each of the next three innings.

### Pirates 5, Astros 2

HOUSTON — Kip Wells won for the first time since May 31, and Brian Giles and Aramis Ramirez each drove in two runs in a four-run first inning as Pittsburgh beat Houston.

The Pirates won in Houston for the first time since July 16, snapping a nine-game losing streak at Minute Maid Park.

Wells (3-4) pitched 6½ innings, giving up two runs on five hits. Mike Williams got three outs for his 25th save in 30 chances.

Ramirez hit a two-run shot, his 10th. Roy Oswalt (5-5), who also got the loss the last time Pittsburgh won in Houston, allowed four runs on eight hits in six innings.

Jeff Bagwell hit his 17th homer for the Astros.

### Rockies 5, Dodgers 3

DENVER — Todd Helton hit his third homer in two games and drove in two runs, and Preston Wilson homered and stole a potential tying home run from David Ross as Colorado beat Los Angeles.

Colorado has won four straight and eight of 12 to tie Los Angeles for third in the NL West.

Jolbert Cabrera had two homers for Los Angeles, which lost for the 12th time in 16 games. Alex Cora also connected for the Dodgers.

Rockies starter Jason Jennings (9-6) allowed two runs and five hits in 6½ innings. Last season's NL Rookie of the Year is 6-1 over his past eight starts and 6-0 at Coors Field this season.

Justin Speier got his fifth save. Andy Ashby (2-6) gave up four runs in five innings.

### Cardinals 9, Padres 7 (11)

ST. LOUIS — Albert Pujols hit a two-run homer in the bottom of the 11th inning to give St. Louis a victory over San Diego.

J.D. Drew reached on an infield hit to start the 11th, and Pujols hit a 1-0 pitch from Matt Herges (2-2) into the left-field bullpen for his 27th homer of the season. It was his first career game-winning blast.

Jason Simontacchi (7-4) pitched two scoreless innings for the victory.

From The Associated Press

## Scores/standings

### American League

East Division					GB
	W	L	Pct		
New York	56	36	.609	—	
Boston	55	37	.598	1	
Toronto	49	45	.521	8	
Baltimore	41	49	.456	14	
Tampa Bay	32	59	.352	23½	
Central Division					GB
	W	L	Pct		
Kansas City	50	41	.549	—	
Minnesota	44	48	.478	6½	
Chicago	44	49	.473	7	
Cleveland	41	52	.441	10	
Detroit	24	67	.264	26	
West Division					GB
	W	L	Pct		
Seattle	57	35	.620	—	
Oakland	53	39	.576	4	
Anaheim	48	43	.527	8½	
Texas	38	54	.413	19	

### Saturday's games

Chicago White Sox 7, Cleveland 4, 10 innings, 1st game  
Cleveland 4, Chicago White Sox 2, 2nd game  
Toronto 10, N.Y. Yankees 3  
Anaheim 6, Minnesota 1  
Oakland 5, Baltimore 3  
Boston 4, Detroit 2, 11 innings  
Kansas City 8, Texas 2  
Tampa Bay 6, Seattle 5

### National League

East Division					GB
	W	L	Pct		
Atlanta	60	32	.652	—	
Philadelphia	52	39	.571	7½	
Montreal	49	44	.527	11½	
Florida	48	46	.511	13	
New York	39	53	.424	21	
Central Division					GB
	W	L	Pct		
Houston	49	44	.527	—	
St. Louis	48	45	.516	1	
Chicago	47	46	.505	2	
Cincinnati	42	50	.457	6½	
Pittsburgh	41	49	.456	6½	
Milwaukee	37	55	.402	11½	
West Division					GB
	W	L	Pct		
San Francisco	57	36	.613	—	
Arizona	51	42	.548	6	
Los Angeles	48	44	.522	8½	
Colorado	50	46	.521	8½	
San Diego	35	60	.368	23	

### Saturday's games

Chicago Cubs 7, Atlanta 3  
Philadelphia 4, N.Y. Mets 2, 11 innings  
San Francisco 8, Arizona 1  
Montreal 7, Florida 1  
Cincinnati 5, Milwaukee 1  
Pittsburgh 5, Houston 2  
Colorado 5, Los Angeles 3  
St. Louis 9, San Diego 7, 11 innings

From The Associated Press

## Continued from Page 9

The defending AL West champions won their fourth straight and matched their season high at 14 games over .500.

Jim Mecir (2-1) pitched a scoreless inning for the victory and Keith Foulke worked the ninth for his 24th save in 28 chances.

Long connected for his 10th homer of the season on a 2-1 pitch from Pat Hentgen in the second.

### Angels 6, Twins 1

ANAHEIM, Calif. — Darin Erstad hit a tiebreaking two-run triple in the seventh inning and Jarrod Washburn pitched seven solid innings as Anaheim kept Brad Radke winless in his past 10 starts.

Scott Spiezio went 3-for-4 with an RBI single and sacrifice fly, helping the Angels win for the 11th time in 15 games. Washburn (8-9) allowed a run and five hits, striking out five and walking one.

Radke (5-9) was charged with four runs — three earned — and eight hits over seven innings while striking out seven. The beleaguered right-hander is 0-6 with a 5.40 ERA since beating Chicago 18-3 on May 16 for his fourth straight victory.

## American League continued

### White Sox 7, Indians 4 (1st, 10) Indians 4, White Sox 2 (2nd)

CLEVELAND — Travis Hafner had three RBIs and Jake Westbrook got his first victory since May 9 as Cleveland beat Chicago for a split of their day-night doubleheader.

In the opener, Paul Konerko hit a three-run homer off Terry Mulholland (1-2) in the 10th inning as the White Sox rallied for a victory.

Shane Spencer added a solo homer and made two nice catches in right field for the Indians in the nightcap.

Hafner and Westbrook (4-4) were both recalled earlier in the day from Triple-A Buffalo. Westbrook allowed one run and three hits over five innings in his first start since May 26.

Danys Baez, who threw away Cleveland's victory with a two-run error in the ninth inning of the day game, worked another shaky ninth for his 21st save.

Reliever Damaso Marte (3-1) got the victory, and Tom Gordon earned his 100th career save in the opener. Gor-

don is the 14th pitcher with 100 career victories and saves.

### Red Sox 4, Tigers 2 (11)

DETROIT — Johnny Damon homered and hit a go-ahead RBI single in the 11th inning as Boston won its fifth straight.

Pedro Martinez pitched seven sharp innings and Trot Nixon also homered for the Red Sox, who moved within one game of the first-place New York Yankees in the AL East.

Martinez left leading 2-1, only to see the Boston bullpen cost him a victory for the fifth time this season. Alan Embree gave up a two-out RBI double to Carlos Pena that tied it in the eighth.

Todd Jones (2-0) struck out three in a scoreless 10th inning for the victory. Byung-Hyun Kim got three outs for his fifth save in five chances.

### Royals 8, Rangers 2

ARLINGTON, Texas — Jose Lima pitched seven scoreless innings to win his fifth consecutive start, and Carlos Beltran had four hits as Kansas City beat Texas.

Beltran also drove in three runs, and Michael Tucker added a pair of RBIs for

the Royals, who extended their lead to 6½ games over the Minnesota Twins in the American League Central.

Kansas City's Aaron Guiel went 3-for-5 and hit his fourth home run of the season.

Lima (5-0) allowed four hits — all singles — and struck out three. The right-hander is the first Royal to win five straight starts since Paul Byrd did it July 25-Aug. 16, 2001.

### Devil Rays 6, Mariners 5

SEATTLE — Victor Zambrano pitched into the ninth inning and Tampa Bay hit four home runs to give manager Lou Piniella his first victory over Seattle.

Javier Vazquez, Travis Lee, Damian Rollins and Antonio Perez each homered for the Devil Rays in Piniella's first victory against the team he led for the 10 previous seasons, though this game lacked the fanfare of his celebrated return to Seattle one night earlier.

Zambrano (6-4) cruised through eight innings, striking out seven, walking one and facing only five batters over the minimum.

But Bret Boone and Edgar Martinez hit back-to-back homers to start the ninth.

Al Levine and Brandon Backe each got an out before Lance Carter finished for his 15th save in 21 opportunities.

From The Associated Press